

12/13/77 ~~BBP29~~
WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA

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13 December 1977

George Lister
A.R.A.
Department of State room 6263
Washington, D.C. 20520

To:

From: Juan Ferreira

Re: Argentine women detained December 8

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason 2

Text of TELEX sent by Charles Harper of the World Council of Churches in Geneva to William Wipfler of the National Council of Churches in New York.

Information just received confirmed that there were approximately twenty persons detained on Thursday evening December 8 at a church called Iglesia Santa Cruz.

Their whereabouts are still unknown. Of the twenty, nine names are as follows:

1. Alicia Domon (French), Sister of a French religious order, known as Hermana Alicia.
2. Renee Duquet (French), Sister of a religious order, known as Hermana Lioni.
3. Esther Careaga I.D. 424-14-55
4. Maria P. de Bianco Civic document 0288009
5. Azuzena de Vicentini Civic document 2.L95.883
6. Patricia Oviedo
7. Julio Sonsovilla
8. Raquel Bulit
9. Horacio Elbert

Please inform us of any additional names which come to your attention. In addition, we are informed that Carlos Gattinoni, one of the presidents of the Asamblea Permanente de los Derechos Humanos in Argentina, gave a press conference on the same day of the detention in which he asserted that over 12,000 persons are believed "to have either disappeared or have been arrested for political reasons in Argentina since the military government seized power in March 1976." A list was delivered by the Asamblea, according to Reuter wireservice, to General Videla by the Asamblea, containing names of 225 persons missing this year, whose relatives filed habeas corpus writs on their behalf. The Asamblea sources estimate that 6,000 persons are missing since March 1976 and claim that 6,000 are being held in prison for political reasons. We have not received direct confirmation of any relationship between this press conference and the detention of the twenty the Thursday evening, but are inquiring.

LOT 81F93
(17) 5245